

# PHARMACEUTICAL TECHNICIAN CHANGES

(ver. 9/26/06)

**Section 1.** NAC 639.245 shall be amended as follows:

1. A written record must be kept available for inspection showing the pharmacists, pharmaceutical technicians and pharmaceutical technicians in training on duty during the hours of business. This record must be:

(a) Readily retrievable [~~within 48 hours after a request therefor~~].

(b) Retained for 2 years.

2. A pharmaceutical technician under the direct supervision of a pharmacist may:

(a) Prepackage and label unit dose and unit of use, and repackage drugs if a pharmacist:

(1) Inspects the final products; and

(2) Affixes his initials to the appropriate records for controlling quality.

(b) Prepare, package, compound and label prescription drugs pursuant to prescriptions or orders for medication, if a pharmacist inspects the preparations.

(c) [~~Mix drugs with parenteral fluids~~] ***Compound drugs***, if a pharmacist:

(1) Inspects the final product; and

(2) Affixes his initials to the appropriate records for controlling quality.

(d) Prepare bulk compounds if a pharmacist:

(1) Inspects the final product; and

(2) Affixes his initials to the appropriate records for controlling quality.

(e) Distribute routine orders and stock medications and supplies in the pharmacy or areas where care is provided to patients.

(f) Maintain inventories of supplies of drugs.

(g) Maintain pharmaceutical records.

(h) Request authorization to refill a prescription from the prescribing practitioner.

(i) Transfer a prescription through a computer network if the:

(1) Pharmaceutical technician is employed by a pharmacy that:

(I) Has more than one location; and

(II) Maintains a computer network which provides information between its pharmacies; and

(2) Prescription is transferred to one of the pharmacies within its computer network.

***(j) Enter into the pharmacy's computer system information from a new prescription related to the drug and directions for use contained in the prescription.***

3. A pharmaceutical technician may not:

(a) Perform any action requiring a judgmental decision regarding a drug, the interpretation of a prescription or the instructions for the preparation of a prescription.

(b) Take new prescription or chart orders by telephone.

(c) Distribute medications pursuant to a chart order or dispense a prescription unless the order or prescription has been verified by a pharmacist.

4. A pharmaceutical technician shall prepare and distribute drugs only pursuant to written procedures and guidelines established by the pharmacy in which he performs his duties.

**Section 2.** NAC 639.250 shall be amended as follows:

Except as otherwise provided in NAC 639.258:

1. In a hospital, a pharmacist who is dispensing prescriptions may not supervise more than ~~[two]~~ **three** pharmaceutical technicians at one time. A pharmacist who is supervising distributive functions may not supervise more than one pharmaceutical technician in training and ~~[one]~~ **two** pharmaceutical technicians while the trainee is performing technician functions in on-the-job training.

2. In any pharmacy, other than a hospital pharmacy, a pharmacist may not supervise more than ~~[two]~~ **three** pharmaceutical technicians or **any combination of pharmaceutical technicians and pharmaceutical technicians in training as long as the pharmacist is not supervising more than** two pharmaceutical technicians in training at one time.

3. *If a pharmacy has, for any period of time, more than ~~[two]~~ **three** registered technicians per pharmacist working in the pharmacy, it must designate on the written record of employees made pursuant to NAC 639.245(1) only ~~[two]~~ **three** technicians per pharmacist who will be performing tasks for which registration is required, and all other technicians may not perform tasks for which registration is required during that period. ~~[The designation of a technician to perform tasks for which registration is required cannot be for less than three hours.]~~ All name badges must accurately reflect the function being performed by a registered technician such that if he is not one of the technicians performing technician functions, his name badge may not indicate that he is a pharmaceutical technician and must, instead, indicate that he is a clerk or cashier or other similar designation.*

**Section 3.** NAC 639.701 shall be amended as follows:

The following acts are not required to be performed by a pharmacist, intern pharmacist, pharmaceutical technician or pharmaceutical technician in training:

1. Entering information into the pharmacy's computer ~~[regarding drugs and medications, including]~~ **except any** information relating to prescriptions.
2. Processing sales, including the operation of a cash register.
3. Stocking shelves.
4. Delivering medication to a patient or to areas of a hospital where patients are cared for.

**Section 4.** This regulation shall not be effective until January 1, 2007.